

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated August 11, 2004. Claims 59-105 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 59-105 were rejected. In this Amendment, 59, 70, 75, 80, 91, 96, 101 and 103-105 have been amended. Claims 59-105 thus remain for consideration.

Applicants submit that claims 59-105 are in condition for allowance and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§103 Rejections

Claims 59-67, 80-88 and 103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,418,853) in view of Takashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,960,151).

Claims 68, 69, 89 and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota and Takashi, and further in view of Ryan (U.S. Pat. No. 4,577,216).

Claims 70-74 and 91-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Kimoto et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,303,294).

Claims 75-79, 96-102, 104 and 105 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Takashi, and further in view of Kimoto.

Applicants submit that the independent claims (claims 59, 70, 75, 80, 91, 96, 101 and 103-105) are patentable over Kanota, Takashi, Ryan and Kimoto.

Applicants' invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a digital signal recorder and digital signal recording method. Each of the claims recites that copy

management information is generated, and that “said copy management information is digital information that is generated based on an analog signal.”

Neither Kanota, Takashi, Ryan nor Kimoto discloses generating digital copy management information based on an analog signal. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 59, 70, 75, 80, 91, 96, 101 and 103-105 are patentable over Kanota, Takashi, Ryan and Kimoto - taken either alone or in combination - on at least this basis.

Furthermore, since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their respective base claims, dependent claims 60-69, 71-74, 76-79, 81-90, 92-95, 97-100 and 102 are believed to be patentable over Kanota, Takashi, Ryan and Kimoto for at least the same reasons discussed in connection with the independent claims.

Applicants submit that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicants’ undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner

specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.


If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

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